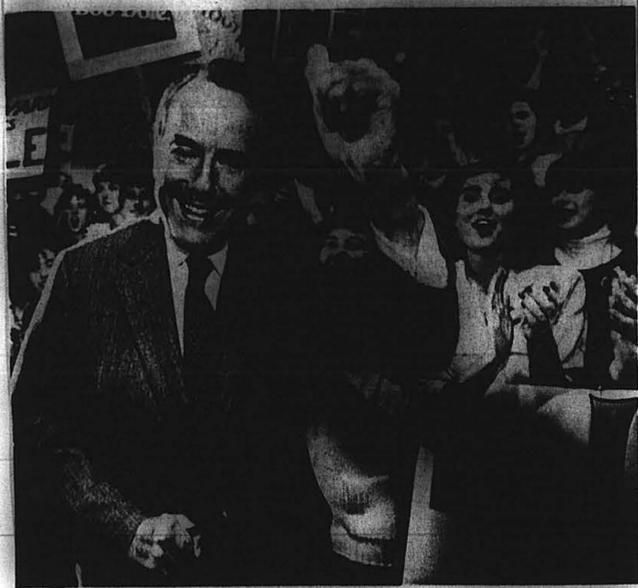


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**OFFICIAL CANDIDATE**—Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas makes his way to the microphone Monday to tell a crowd of about 1,200 supporters in Manchester, N.H., that he's officially in the running for the presidency. Dole said his top priority would be shrinking the federal deficit. —(AP Laserphoto)

# Sen. Dole hits campaign trail

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Citing New Hampshire's low unemployment and taxes as goals America aspires to, Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas brought his now-official bid for the presidency to the leadoff primary state.

"New Hampshire shows it's possible to have prosperity and low taxes without sacrificing quality of life," he said, crediting state government's hands-off attitude toward industry.

New Hampshire was Dole's third stop on his announcement tour, which began Monday morning in his hometown of Russell, Kan., and proceeded to Iowa, home of the nation's earliest caucuses. He planned to take the campaign south for stops in Georgia and North Carolina today.

**By Duane Schrag**  
*The Hutchinson News*

**RUSSELL** — Sen. Bob Dole, focusing on the strengths of rural America, formally declared himself a presidential candidate Monday.

"When I look out on Main Street this morning I see the faces of people who know me best, people who have always accepted me, and believed in me," Dole said.

Waving the cigar box that was placed on the counter of the former Dawson Drug Store to collect money to pay for medical expenses for his World War II wounds, Dole said, "There are people standing here who long ago put quarters they couldn't spare in this cigar box. That generosity helped reshape my life."

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Monday, G.B. "Gus" Dawson gave Dole that cigar box. It contained the good wishes of Kansans and more than \$100,000, Dawson said.

Dole left Russell about 10:30 a.m. in a motorcade bound for Great Bend, where he flew in a Boeing 727 to Des Moines, Iowa. There, he made a similar announcement. He later flew on to New Hampshire.

In his hometown speech, Dole promised that as president he would — without raising taxes — force Congress to balance the budget through a constitutional amendment. He said he would take the issue to the American public if Congress would not go along with it. He also cited goals of negotiating arms reductions with the Soviet Union and reaffirming a commitment to education.

A crowd, estimated at between 7,000 and 8,000 people, jammed the intersection of 8th and Main in downtown Russell. Dole's podium was less than 40 yards from the drug store where he landed his first job as a soda jerk in the 1930s.

A collection of Kansas' leading Republicans was on hand for the announcement. On the podium with Dole were Gov. Mike Hayden, Rep. Pat Roberts and Sen. Nancy Kassembaum. Also on the podium were Dole's wife, Elizabeth, and daughter, Robin.

The values of rural America and Russell were stressed during the ceremony.

"We know that Bob Dole reflects our values, our hopes and our goals," Roberts said. "When there are chores to be done, someone has to take the lead."

It was the second time Dole has declared formally for president; he ran in 1980, and before withdrawing had ranked himself fourth among five Republican candidates at the time — behind Ronald Reagan, John Connally, Howard Baker — and ahead of George Bush. Dole also was a candidate for vice president with Gerald Ford in 1976.

Activity in the intersection began before sunrise. Three people from Oakley were in lawn chairs, wrapped in blankets and listening to radio music while dawn was still just a blush in the eastern sky.

Bleachers, reserved for schoolchildren, ringed the intersection. About 8 a.m., the Great Bend High School marching band and Russell High School Broncos Pops Choir began performing for the gathering crowd.

By the time the first announcements were made at 8:30 a.m., all free space in the middle of the intersection was taken up, and the crowd was backed into the street behind the bleachers.

"This is Dave. I just lost sight of the podium forever," said a man into a telephone as he operated the sound system. He later resorted to standing on speaker equipment.

Reinhold Wegele, a Russell native, was on the fringes of the crowd, clutching his Kodak camera. When Dole came to Russell in 1976 as Ford's vice presidential candidate, Wegele missed Dole, then too.

"I was working that day," he said. "I'll see him next time." Mark Kellerman, a medical technologist from Hays, was among those who couldn't see. He held his 3-year-old son, Michael, in his arms as he waited for the ceremony to start.

"I can hear and that's good enough," he said.

A campaign volunteer who declined to give his name shook his head at the impossibility of getting everyone to see Dole. Some townspeople suggested that the high school football field would have allowed plenty of room.

But that wouldn't have been right next to the drug store where Dole first worked. And the grain elevators behind the speakers' platform added a rustic charm to the site.

"This looks like downtown America," the worker said. "That's why they stuck it down here. Doesn't it look like a picture of America?"

The marching band played familiar pep tunes and initiated chants of "Go Bob Dole," "We want Dole," and "Eat 'em up, eat 'em up, go Bob Dole."

Dole's speech was delayed briefly. See DOLE, Page 3

when an elderly man collapsed near the podium.

"We need a doctor," Dole announced from the podium. "Is there a doctor close?"

The crowd became quiet for a few minutes until medical help arrived.

In all, eight people — six women and two men — collapsed during the ceremony and were taken away by ambulance, according to Sheriff Tom Keys. Among them was a woman who was six months pregnant. All were taken to Russell City Hospital. Only one was admitted.

Police had difficulty reaching the victims because they were in the middle of the crowd, Keys said.

"A lot of them hadn't eaten breakfast and got dizzy and passed out," said director of nursing Janice Horton. "All of them were super, super cold."

The temperature during Dole's speech was 28 degrees with a moderate wind.

Six of the victims ranged in age from 66 to 86, one was 15 and one was 31.

A handful of protesters came to the ceremony. Placards protested Dole's support for Contra aid and the depressed farm economy. One man had a wheelbarrow bearing dried manure patties.

"The people want peace; Dole wants war," said a placard carried by members of the Newton area peace center.

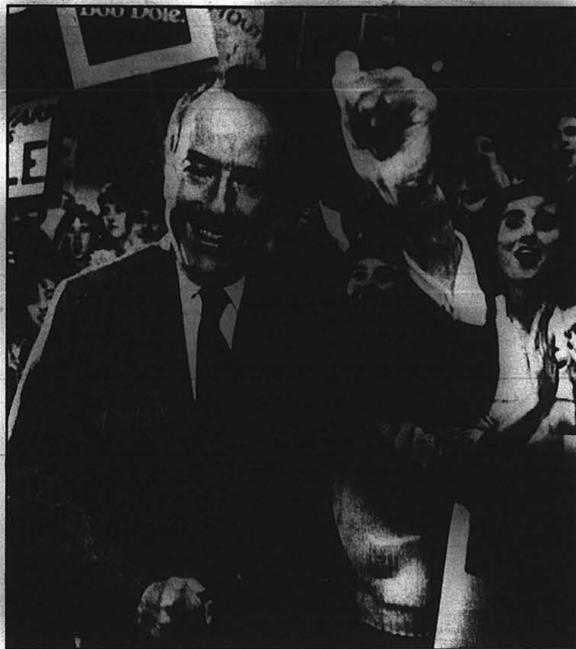
In his speech, Dole reaffirmed his support for the Contra movement and labeled the Strategic Defense Initiative — informally known as "Star Wars" — "the linchpin of Ronald Reagan's arms control strategy" and "our best insurance policy against a still-uncertain future."

Occasionally, he allowed his well-known wit to show through. There was the moment when he announced what everyone came to hear — that he is joining the race for the Republican presidential nomination.

The anticipated cheering burst forth.

"Thank you very much. I accept the nomination," he said.

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Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole works the crowd at Manchester, N.H. Monday

# Dole: Bush just an 'observer'

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Senate Republican leader Bob Dole today characterized his main rival for the GOP presidential nomination, Vice President George Bush, as "more or less an observer" in Washington.

"He (Bush) left the Congress in 1970," Dole said on NBC-TV's "Today" show. "Since that time, he's been carrying out different jobs where somebody else made the policy. I want to run on my record, one of action, one of being a participant, one of being a player rather than an observer."

Dole officially launched his campaign Monday, starting the day in his hometown of Russell, Kan., then moving on to Iowa and New Hampshire.

In a second television interview from Manchester this morning, Dole again contrasted his record with that of Bush.

"I'm not going to make any effort to go out of my way to attack anyone but I do want to set the record straight," he said on ABC-TV's "Good Morning America" program. "I've been a very active player. The vice president's been more or less an observer."

Dole planned to take the campaign south for stops in Georgia and North Carolina later today.

In New Hampshire, where a recent poll showed Dole to be trailing Bush by 28 percentage points, Dole flattered residents for their role in making and breaking candidates.

The voters, he said, must "take a look at us, to size us up, to make a judgment, and you're good at that."

Dole praised the Reagan administration for "restoring American prosperity," but he called the federal budget deficit "public enemy No. 1" and pledged to meet with congressional leaders to solve the problem.

He also promised to "go over the heads of Congress" if no agreement can be reached, and call a constitutional convention to add a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

"We do not expand our opportunities when we burden our children with our indulgences," Dole said. "I don't think we can continue to fool the American people, and I don't think we can afford to saddle our young people with more and more."

On international issues, Dole called for fair and open trade.

"We cannot be seduced by the delusion that if only we build trade walls high enough we can shut out a flood of foreign-built products. But neither will we play the patsy. Our workers are the best in the world, and we will fight for their right to compete," he said.

Dole urged a meeting with American allies to develop new methods of protecting common interests. He pledged to deploy President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative, and to pursue Reagan's policies of aid to "genuine freedom fighters," a strong military, and work toward a nuclear arms agreement with the Soviet Union.

Dole's announcement rounds out the presidential field of six Democrats and six Republicans. Dole, the last to formally announce, joins fellow Republicans Bush, former Delaware Gov. Pete du Pont, former Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig, longtime television evangelist Pat Robertson and Rep. Jack Kemp of New York.

Most polls have shown Bush ahead in the GOP race, with Dole following behind.

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HAYS DAILY 11-10  
Russell's native son touts Kansas values in speech